

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1        1.     A method comprising:  
2                super-cooling a solute to produce a pre-conditioned solute, and using the  
3                pre-conditioned solute as a heat exchange medium;  
4                wherein the step of super-cooling alters a heat  
5                absorption rate of the solute, such that the pre-conditioned solute has an  
6                increased heat absorption rate as compared to the solute prior to conditioning.

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- 1        2.     A system comprising:  
2             a tank capable of holding a predetermined amount of liquid;  
3             a circulator capable of circulating said liquid;  
4             a refrigeration system capable of cooling said liquid; and  
5             a pre-conditioned solute having an altered heat absorption rate.
- 1        3.     The system as in Claim 2, wherein said pre-conditioned solute is a solute  
2             having been conditioned by being super-cooled at an average rate of at least  
3             about 6.5°C per minute.
- 1        4.     The system as in Claim 2, wherein said pre-conditioned solute is a solute  
2             having been conditioned by being super-cooled from room temperature to a  
3             temperature of less than about -23°C.
- 1        5.     The system as in Claim 2, wherein said pre-conditioned solute is a solute  
2             having been conditioned by being super-cooled from room temperature to  
3             between about -23°C and -26°C.
- 1        6.     The system as in Claim 2, wherein said pre-conditioned solute is a solute  
2             having been conditioned by being super-cooled at an average rate of between  
3             about 6.5°C and 8.5°C per minute.
- 1        7.     The system as in Claim 2, wherein said pre-conditioned solute is a solute  
2             having been conditioned by being super-cooled, for at least a portion of time,  
3             at an average rate of at least about 17°C per minute.
- 1        8.     The system as in Claim 2, wherein the heat absorption rate of the pre-  
2             conditioned solute is about 135 BTU at a temperature of between about -23°C

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3           and -26°C.

1       9.     The system as in Claim 2, wherein at least a portion of the pre-conditioned  
2           solute remains in a super-cooled state, such that the pre-conditioned solute  
3           exhibits no spike in temperature upon subsequently being cooled from room  
4           temperature to between about -23°C and -26°C.

1       10.    The system as in Claim 2, wherein said pre-conditioned solute includes  
2           propylene glycol.

1       11.    The system as in Claim 10, wherein the pre-conditioned solute includes:  
2           about 50 per cent water;  
3           about 50 percent propylene glycol; and  
4           about 1 percent surfactant.

1       12.    The system as in Claim 2, wherein said pre-conditioned solute includes  
2           glycerol.

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- 1 13. A heat exchange medium comprising a liquid having an altered heat  
2 absorption rate.
- 1 14. The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein the heat absorption rate  
2 of said liquid is altered by a process including super-cooling a liquid with an  
3 unaltered heat absorption rate at an average rate of at least about 6.5°C per  
4 minute.
- 1 15. The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein the heat absorption rate  
2 of said liquid is altered by a process including super-cooling a liquid with an  
3 unaltered heat absorption rate to a temperature of less than about -23°C.
- 1 16. The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein the heat absorption rate  
2 of said liquid is altered by a process including super-cooling a liquid with an  
3 unaltered heat absorption rate from room temperature to between about -23°C  
4 and -26°C.
- 1 17. The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein the heat absorption rate  
2 of said liquid is altered by a process including super-cooling a liquid with an  
3 unaltered heat absorption rate at an average rate of between about 6.5°C and  
4 8.5°C per minute.
- 1 18. The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein the heat absorption rate  
2 of said liquid is altered by a process including super-cooling a liquid with an  
3 unaltered heat absorption rate, for at least a portion of time, at an average rate  
4 of at least about 17°C per minute.
- 1 19. The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein the altered heat

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2           absorption rate of the liquid is about 135 BTU at a temperature of between  
3           about -23°C and -26°C.

1       20.    The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein at least a portion of said  
2           liquid remains in a super-cooled state, such that said liquid exhibits no spike in  
3           temperature upon subsequently being cooled from room temperature to  
4           between about -23°C and -26°C.

1       21.    The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein said liquid includes  
2           propylene glycol.

1       22.    The heat exchange medium as in Claim 21, wherein said liquid includes:  
2           about 50 per cent water;  
3           about 50 percent propylene glycol; and  
4           about 1 percent surfactant.

1       23.    The heat exchange medium as in Claim 13, wherein said liquid includes  
2           glycerol.